

825 Powell Road
Lenoir, North Carolina 28645

January 17, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to express my support for the settlement and an end to the litigation in the Microsoft antitrust case. The case has gone on long enough.

I am pleased with a number of the terms of the settlement. I most specifically like that Microsoft has agreed to design future versions of Windows in such a way that computer makers, software developers and consumers can promote non-Microsoft software within the Windows operating system. I am also pleased that the settlement will be monitored by a committee rather than solely through contempt of court or other enforcement proceedings which are more time consuming and costly.

I was amazed at the recent write-off that Microsoft had to take for the litigation. We need to leave this case behind, and the settlement offers a viable opportunity to do so. It is time to allow the country to focus on business again. I would hate to see a market replay of the seventies.

I support the settlement—as I understand it, and hope that it is finalized as soon as possible. Thank you for reviewing my comments.

Sincerely,



Stephen Scott